

12/13/00

RF 6/18/03 080.671PAT

RECEIVED
6/18/03

PATENT

In the claims:

a2

1. (Now amended) A method of identifying a handwritten signature that is unique to the user, comprising:
providing an electronic pen and an electronic writing unit in communication with a computer system;
a user applying a pressure on the electronic writing unit by the electronic pen at a first time;
moving the electronic pen on the electronic writing unit and varying the pressure by the electronic pen on the electronic writing unit to create a unique signature of the user;
inserting the electronic pen into an activation opening defined in the electronic writing unit to gain access to a database of the computer system;
applying the pressure at a second time that is subsequent the first time;
measuring a time difference between the first time and the second time;
measuring pressure variations by the electronic pen on the electronic writing unit when the electronic pen is moved on the electronic writing unit by the user; and
comparing the time difference and pressure variations with time differences and pressure variations of a pre-recorded signature by the user.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises measuring a speed of the electronic pen when the electronic pen is moved on the electronic writing unit and comparing the speed with a speed of the electronic pen during the pre-recorded signature.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises measuring an acceleration of the electronic pen when the electronic pen is moved on the electronic writing unit and comparing the acceleration with an acceleration of the electronic pen during the pre-recorded signature.

*a2
cont*

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises measuring the pressure difference between the segments of the signature and comparing the pressure difference with pressure difference in the same segments of the pre-recorded signature.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises measuring a relative time requirement to complete a first name of the signature and a relative time requirement to complete a last name and comparing the relative times with a total time requirement to complete the signature.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises measuring a total number of units activated on the electronic writing unit and comparing the total number with a total number of units activated on the pre-recorded signature.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6 wherein the method further comprises calculating a utilization density of the electronic writing unit.

Asent
8. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the computer transmits an approval signal when the time difference is between a predetermined maximum value and a minimum value.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises providing the electronic writing unit with an opening defined therein and inserting the electronic pen into the opening to activate the computer.

10. (Original) A method of identifying a handwritten signature that is unique to the user, comprising:
providing an electronic pen and an electronic writing unit in communication with a computer system;

activating the computer system by inserting the electronic pen into an activation opening defined in the electronic writing unit;

applying the electronic pen on the electronic writing unit; moving the electronic pen on the electronic writing unit to create a unique signature of the user;

recording the movement of the electronic pen in a database of the computer system;

comparing the movement with movements of a pre-recorded signature of the user; and

providing an acceptance signal when the recorded movement between a maximum and a minimum value of the movements of the pre-recorded signature.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the method further comprises measuring a speed and pressure of the electronic pen when the electronic pen is moved on the electronic writing unit and comparing the speed with a speed of the electronic pen during the pre-recorded signature.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the method further comprises measuring an acceleration of the electronic pen when the electronic pen is moved on the electronic writing unit and comparing the acceleration with an acceleration of the electronic pen during the pre-recorded signature.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the method further comprises measuring a pressure difference between segments of the signature and comparing the pressure difference with pressure difference in the same segments of the pre-recorded signature.

*As
cont*

14. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the method further comprises measuring a time requirement to complete the signature and comparing the time requirement with a time requirement to complete the pre-recorded signature.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the method further comprises measuring a total number of units activated on the electronic writing unit and comparing the total number with a total number of units activated on the pre-recorded signature.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the method further comprises providing the electronic writing unit with an opening defined therein and inserting the electronic pen into the opening to activate the computer.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the method further comprises providing the electronic pen with a memory unit for storing personal data thereon.

[Please add the following claim: 9]

18. (Added claim) A method of identifying a handwritten signature that is unique to the user, comprising:
 providing an electronic pen, having a writing tip and an upper opposite male contact, and an electronic writing unit in communication with a computer system;
 activating the computer system by inserting the upper male contact of the electronic pen into an activation opening defined in the electronic writing unit;
 applying the writing tip of the electronic pen on the electronic writing unit;
 moving the writing tip on the electronic writing unit to create a unique signature of the user; and
 comparing the movement with movements of a pre-recorded signature of the user.

*as
concl.*